Montana Legislative History

Chapter: 115 Session L: 2005

Bill Number: SB 69

Checklist of Bill History

History and Final Status Sheet	x
Introduced Bill	X
Fiscal Note	N/A
Third Reading Bill	X
Final Version of Bill	X

House

Committee: State Administration

Hearing Date(s):
March 8, 2005

Senate

Committee: State Administration

Hearing Date(s):
January 10, 2005
January 15, 2005 (EA)

Conference Committee

Hearing Date(s): n/a

Conference Committee Report:

Compiler Notes

Compiled by:

Date:

Notes:

Bill Draft Number: LC0591
Bill Type - Number: SB 69
Short Title: Designation of state poet laureate
Primary Sponsor: John Cobb (R) SD 9
Chapter Number: 115

Bill Actions - **Current Bill Progress:** Became Law

Bill Action Count: 43

Action - Most Recent First	Date	Votes Yes	Votes No	Committee
Chapter Number Assigned	03/24/2005			
(S) Signed by Governor	03/24/2005			
(S) Transmitted to Governor	03/17/2005			
(H) Signed by Speaker	03/16/2005			
(S) Signed by President	03/16/2005			
(C) Printed - New Version Available	03/15/2005			
(S) Returned from Enrolling	03/15/2005			
(S) Sent to Enrolling	03/14/2005			
(H) Returned to Senate	03/12/2005			
(H) 3rd Reading Concurred	03/12/2005	78	17	
(H) Scheduled for 3rd Reading	03/12/2005			
(H) 2nd Reading Concurred	03/11/2005	86	11	
(H) Scheduled for 2nd Reading	03/11/2005			
(H) Scheduled for 2nd Reading	03/10/2005			
(H) Committee Report--Bill Concurred	03/08/2005			(H) State Administration
(H) Committee Executive Action--Bill Concurred	03/08/2005	15	1	(H) State Administration
(H) Hearing	03/08/2005			(H) State Administration
(H) Referred to Committee	02/22/2005			(H) State Administration
(H) First Reading	02/22/2005			
(S) Transmitted to House	01/18/2005			
(S) 3rd Reading Passed	01/18/2005	44	6	
(S) Scheduled for 3rd Reading	01/18/2005			
(S) 2nd Reading Passed on Voice Vote	01/17/2005	45	5	
(S) Scheduled for 2nd Reading	01/17/2005			
(C) Printed - New Version Available	01/15/2005			
(S) Committee Report--Bill Passed	01/15/2005			(S) State Administration
(S) Committee Executive Action--Bill Passed	01/15/2005	11	0	(S) State Administration
(S) Hearing	01/10/2005			(S) State Administration
(S) Sponsor List Modified	01/05/2005			
(S) First Reading	01/03/2005			
(S) Referred to Committee	12/29/2004			(S) State Administration
(C) Introduced Bill Text Available Electronically	12/14/2004			
(S) Introduced	12/14/2004			

(C) Pre-Introduction Letter Sent	12/08/2004
(C) Draft in Assembly/Executive Director Review	12/07/2004
(C) Draft in Final Drafter Review	12/07/2004
(C) Bill Draft Text Available Electronically	12/07/2004
(C) Draft in Input/Proofing	12/07/2004
(C) Draft to Drafter - Edit Review [SAB]	12/06/2004
(C) Draft in Edit	12/06/2004
(C) Draft in Legal Review	12/06/2004
(C) Draft to Requester for Review	11/30/2004
(C) Draft Request Received	11/01/2004

Sponsor, etc.

Sponsor, etc.	Last Name/Organization	First Name	Mi
Requester	Cobb	John	
Drafter	Bohyer	Dave	
Primary Sponsor	Cobb	John	

Subjects

Description	Revenue/Approp.	Vote Majority Req.	Subject Code
Arts and Antiquities		Simple	ART

Additional Bill Information

Fiscal Note Probable: No
Preintroduction Required: N
Session Law Ch. Number: 115
DEADLINE
Category: General Bills
Transmittal Date: 03/01/2005
Return (with 2nd house amendments) Date: 04/06/2005

Section Effective Dates

Section(s)	Effective Date	Date Qualified
All Sections	24-MAR-05	

SENATE BILL NO. 69

INTRODUCED BY J. COBB, KITZENBERG, TESTER, ELLIOTT

A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE HONORARY POSITION OF STATE POET LAUREATE; PROVIDING FOR THE NOMINATION, APPOINTMENT, AND TERM OF THE STATE POET LAUREATE; PROVIDING FOR IMPLEMENTATION; AMENDING SECTION 22-2-106, MCA; AND PROVIDING AN IMMEDIATE EFFECTIVE DATE."

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

NEW SECTION. **Section 1. State poet laureate.** (1) There is a state poet laureate.

(2) Within 30 days prior to the expiration of the state poet laureate's term of appointment or within 30 days after a vacancy in the position occurs, the Montana arts council established in 22-2-101 shall nominate three individuals to be the state poet laureate. The Montana arts council shall provide the list of nominees to the governor who shall:

(a) within 30 days after receiving the list of nominees, appoint the state poet laureate from among the individuals named on the list; and

(b) notify the secretary of state and the Montana arts council of the appointment.

(3) The individual named by the governor as the state poet laureate shall serve for a term of 2 years beginning on the date of appointment by the governor.

(4) The state poet laureate is an honorary position, and the person serving as the state poet laureate may not receive any compensation from the state for serving as the state poet laureate.

Section 2. Section 22-2-106, MCA, is amended to read:

"22-2-106. Council duties. The ~~duties of the~~ council shall ~~be to~~:

(1) encourage throughout the state the study and presentation of the arts and stimulate public interest and participation ~~therein~~ in the arts;

(2) cooperate with public and private institutions engaged within the state in artistic and cultural activities, including but not limited to music, theater, dance, painting, sculpture, architecture, and allied arts and crafts, and make recommendations concerning appropriate methods to encourage participation in and

appreciation of the arts to meet the legitimate needs and aspirations of persons in all parts of the state;

(3) foster public interest in the cultural heritage of our state and expand the state's cultural resources;

(4) encourage and assist freedom of artistic expression essential for the well-being of the arts;

(5) as required under [section 1], nominate three individuals to serve as the state poet laureate and provide the list of nominees to the governor."

NEW SECTION. **Section 3. Implementation.** The Montana arts council shall provide to the governor before July 1, 2005, a list of three nominees for the position of state poet laureate provided for in [section 1]. The governor shall appoint a state poet laureate within 30 days following receipt of the list of appointees. Subsequent nominations and appointments as state poet laureate must be made as provided in [section 1].

NEW SECTION. **Section 4. Codification instruction.** [Section 1] is intended to be codified as an integral part of Title 2, chapter 15, and the provisions of Title 2, chapter 15, apply to [section 1].

NEW SECTION. **Section 5. Effective date.** [This act] is effective on passage and approval.

- END -

SENATE BILL NO. 69

INTRODUCED BY J. COBB

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- END -

MINUTES

MONTANA SENATE
59th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON STATE ADMINISTRATION

Call to Order: By **CHAIRMAN CAROLYN SQUIRES**, on January 10, 2005 at 3:00 P.M., in Room 335 Capitol.

ROLL CALL

Members Present:
Sen. Carolyn Squires, Chairman (D)
Sen. Joe Balyeat (R)
Sen. Vicki Cocchiarella (D)
Sen. Mike Cooney (D)
Sen. Jon Ellingson (D)
Sen. Jeff Essmann (R)
Sen. Steven Gallus (D)
Sen. Rick Laible (R)
Sen. Dave Lewis (R)
Sen. Jim Shockley (R)
Sen. Joseph (Joe) Tropila (D)

Members Excused: None.

Members Absent: None.

Staff Present: Dave Bohyer, Legislative Branch
Claudia Johnson, Committee Secretary

Please Note. These are summary minutes. Testimony and discussion are paraphrased and condensed.

Committee Business Summary:
Hearing & Date Posted: SB 118, 1/4/2005 SB 23, 1/4/2005; SB 69, 1/4/2005; SB 25, 1/4/2005; SB 72, 1/4/2005
Executive Action: None.

HEARING ON SB 118

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

SEN. MIKE WHEAT (D), SD 32, opened the hearing on SB 118, Revise employment-related protection for National Guard. He stated that this bill prohibits job discrimination for those employees that are called to active duty in the state of Montana. He said there are federal statutes that protect military people that are called to active duty. He referred to page 2 of the bill regarding the definition of state active duty, and stated that the state active duty doesn't specifically state federally-funded active duty. He said in this type of a situation that federal law provides for the rights and protection of the service men and women. He discussed the bill section by section. New Section 5 deals with entitlement of leave of absence. He stated that a member ordered to state active duty is entitled to a leave of absence from appointment for a period of that state active duty. New Section 6 talks about the right to return to employment without loss of benefits with some exceptions: after a leave of absence for state active duty the members are entitled to return to employment at the same seniority, status, pay, health insurance, pension, and other benefits. He stated that exceptions to this would be a probationary employee. **SEN. WHEAT** distributed an amendment (Exhibit 1). The employee must be employed for a minimum of six months to receive leave of absence with pay, which accrues at a rate of 15 working days in a calendar year for performing military service. This leave cannot be charged against the employee's annual vacation time. Unused military leave will be carried over to the next calendar year, but cannot exceed a total of 30 days in any calendar year.

EXHIBIT(sts06a01)

{Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Time Counter: 11 - 20}

Proponents' Testimony:

Dan Antonetti, representing the VFW, stated his support for SB 118. He urged the Committee to pass this bill.

Randy Mosley, Adjutant Major General, Department of Military Affairs, distributed his written testimony. He stated that the bill establishes the "Montana Military Service Employment Rights Act". This will update and clarify employment protections for those members who serve in the Montana organized militia or the federal reserves. He informed the Committee that SB 118 was drafted in consultation with the Department of Labor and Industry, and the Montana Attorney General's Office. He stated

that both of these offices will play key roles in the enforcement of the Act's rights and protections. The Federal Duty Act doesn't cover State active duty, and this bill will ensure that members of the Montana Armed Forces are protected. This Act will update military leave provisions related to disqualification for unemployment insurance benefits and repeals those sections of Title 10, which have either become outdated or will be superseded by the Act. He informed the Committee that Lieutenant Colonel James (Jim) Moran, the Department's attorney, is present to answer any questions the Committee members may have. He asked the Committee to support SB 118.

EXHIBIT(sts06a02)

Ali Bovingdon, representing the Attorney General's Office (AG), stated the AG supports SB 118. She informed the Committee that SB 118 will clarify the roles and responsibilities of the Attorney General's office, and urged a do pass.

{Tape: 1; Side: B; Approx. Time Counter: 0 - 6.7}

Roger Hagan, Legislative Consultant of Enlisted and Officer Association of National Guard. Mr. Hagan distributed his written testimony. He informed the Committee that he represents more than 3,000 member officers and enlisted members of the National Guard. He said this bill will make the Montana Code mor more user-friendly for Montana Code. Most of the old code is stricken, and new language inserted. The state Constitution provides for special consideration for service men and women, and veterans. This is a cleanup bill, and protects the Montana service members. He discussed the Uniformed Services Employment and Re-employment Rights Act of 1994 (USERRA), which protects only the National Guard when they are called to active duty by the Governor's office. When the Guards and Reserves are called to federal duty they are protected only on the federal side. The Reserves cannot be called to protect the state of Montana for state active duty. This bill focuses only on the State active duty for the Montana National Guard. SB 118 addresses inactive duty, which is the monthly drill that National Guards attend. He stated that the associations are happy with this bill, because it gives them the opportunity to resolve issues with the military member's employer. He said this bill places the military on par with the federal sector. He thanked all those involved with the draft of this bill, and said that the associations welcome the amendment. He urged the Committee to pass SB 118.

EXHIBIT(sts06a03)

Opponents' Testimony: None.

Informational Testimony:

Kevin Braun, Labor Standards Division, Department of Labor and Industries, informed the Committee that the Department supports this legislation. He is available to the Committee members for any questions they may have.

Lieutenant Colonel James "Jim" Moran, Staff Judge Advocate, Montana National Guard, Montana Department of Military Affairs, informed the Committee that some of the bill is for state active duty and some of the bill is for the reservists. A lot of the sections of the Montana Military Service Employment Act is specifically directed toward the Montana State Active Duty National Guard that is not covered under federal law. He discussed the 15-day leave for public employees, and the provisions for vacancies of elected public officials, and how it will cover both federal reservists, and the State active duty guards. He is available for any questions the Committee members may have.

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

SEN. SHOCKLEY asked **Colonel Moran** about section 4, which has the main part of the bill, and if the Committee can provide the reserve components. **Colonel Moran** replied that the reservists are currently covered under federal law. He stated that when National Guard members are on federally funded military duty on the weekend they are covered under Uniform Services Employment and Re-employment Rights Act of 1994(USERRA). He said USERRA doesn't kick in for state of Montana mobilization. **SEN. SHOCKLEY** asked if guardsmen or militia men who go to active duty under federal status still receive the benefit of section 4. **Colonel Moran** stated that it is not applicable, because they are covered under the USERRA. **SEN. SHOCKLEY** asked if there is a Hatch Act problem with elected officials being on active duty in any form. **Colonel Moran** replied no, and stated that Title 10 changed. In the old law it states if an elected official was ordered to federal duty they would have to resign from office if their active duty was more then 270 days. In the new language, an acting official can take or do the duties of the elected official's position while that member is on active duty, but the employer has to give that position back to that elected official when they return from active duty.

SEN. SHOCKLEY wanted to know what would happen if a militia member committed a misdemeanor. **Colonel Moran** stated that he would have to get back to **SEN. SHOCKLEY.** He said of all the

years he has been in the military, he has never had to confront anyone that has violated that issue.

{Tape: 2; Side: A}

SEN. LAIBLE asked if there is a fiscal note for this bill. He stated that it is noted in the bill that there will be some additional cost as a result of this bill toward public employees in local government. **Mr. Braun** replied that under current law the AG's office is responsible for some of the guardsmen that are public employees. He said they envision the Department of Labor will be using their existing resources, and their time and wage bureau, which will involve the Department's time and wages.

Closing by Sponsor:

SEN. WHEAT closed SB 118. He stated this legislation is long overdue. The language is cleaned up to protect the public employees who are in the military in the state of Montana. He urged the Committee for a do pass motion.

{Tape: 2; Side: A; Approx. Time Counter: 11.4 - 19.9}

HEARING ON SB 23

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

SEN. KIM GILLAN (D), SD 24, opened the hearing on SB 23, Summary of Information Technology (IT) impact for all branches of government. This bill was introduced by the request of the Legislative Council, which will expand and facilitate major IT projects for all state agencies. She discussed the Legislative Branch Computer System Planning Council meeting that was held during the interim. The legislature statutorily created the 9-member planning council to develop and maintain the Legislative Branch computer system plan. She mentioned some of the names of those on the council; Sen. John Brueggeman, Secretary of the Senate, Marilyn Miller, Chief Clerk of the House, Senate Sargent of Arms, Executive Directors, and the Chief Information Officer. During the interim the council expressed their concerns about changes that were made to the statewide information technology system. She said that the provision in this bill will facilitate communication. **SEN. GILLAN** said that in several occasions the executive branch has made changes to statewide systems that have impacted the Legislative Branch IT programs, which rely on data from the state system. She gave an example of the statewide accounting system (SABHRS) that has been upgraded. She said the Legislative Branch was forced to rewrite portions of their program that is used to audit the agencies financial reports and

conduct budget analysis. To rewrite these programs has been extensive and time consuming. She stated that this bill will facilitate communication between state agencies, which will be reviewed by the Planning Council before plans are developed or existing systems replaced, and the impact on other agencies systems will be identified. She said that the Governor's budget office in cooperation with the Department of Administration will include in its IT project budget summary a list of existing IT resources for all state agencies that may be affected by a new major IT project, upgrade, or replacement of a system. The bill requires that the estimate of the cost of the impact to the state agencies be identified. The Planning Council feels that by verifying the impact and the cost, the agencies will be able to plan and prepare for the necessary changes to their system. She said that there will be some amendments.

Proponents' Testimony: None.

Opponents' Testimony: None.

Informational Testimony:

Amy Sassano, Office of Budget and Program Planning (OBPP), stated that the Governor's office support the concept of this bill. She stated that the OBPP has worked with the Legislative Council, and feels the communication issue will be resolved with this bill. She urged a do pass for SB 23.

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

CHAIRWOMAN CAROLYN SQUIRES informed the Committee that the largest budget she ever had to deal with in all her years in the legislature was the cost to purchase computers for the state agencies. She asked **Lois Menzies** about being able to retrieve information that is compatible with other systems instead of getting a message, "sorry, we (computer systems) cannot talk to each other". She wanted to know if this bill will assist in coordinating those activities so there will not be any "mismatching" systems. **Lois Menzies, Legislative Services Division (LSD)**, replied that the bill will serve as notification to systems that will be impacted by upgrades, or changes to major statewide systems. She discussed the Statewide Accounting Budgeting Human Resource System (SABHRS), and how this system impacts all state agencies.

SEN. LEWIS asked **Amy Sassano** if the OBPP will make a list noting the major system changes in the executive budget or will that be a separate report. **Ms. Sassano** replied that the OBPP is required to report a list of systems in statute, such as new IT projects

that are major. She stated that anything the OBPP treats as major is greater than $300,000. They do not report any system that is paid for out of the base budget. Those projects are reported in IT plans for the state agencies. The projects her office will list are those that have a major impact on other state agencies. She stated that the cost of updating SABHRS was over $500,000. She discussed the various costs to other state agencies when this change came on board. The cost to one agency was $10,000, and another agency's cost was $20,000 to update their system in order to use the SABHRS system.

Closing by Sponsor:

SEN. GILLAN closed stating the changes that the OBPP discussed was the new system versus major change to the current system. This bill will require that IT make a list of the resources that will be impacted if there is a change or update of the IT system, and its' affect on other state agency systems. She said there are amendments that need to be agreed on before executive action. She urged a do pass on SB 23.

{Tape: 2; Side: B}

HEARING ON SB 69

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

SEN. JOHN COBB, SD 9, AUGUSTA, and **SEN. SAM KITZENBERG, SD 18, GLASGOW,** are co-sponsors for SB 69. **SEN. KITZENBERG** presented the bill, Designation of state poet laureate. **SEN. KITZENBERG** distributed a handout prepared by himself and **SEN. COBB** explaining what is a poet laureate (see Exhibit 4). He presented background information on how the poet laureate started. He said it started back in the 1600's, when the British royal family wanted to create birthday poems for other members of the royal family. The original poet laureate in the United States started in 1937, but at that time it was called the Poetry Consulate to the Library of Congress. The title was changed to Poet Laureate in 1985, by the Library of Congress. This bill creates a commission post for a Poet Laureate with a salary of $35,000. The person in charge will promote poetry, which is a large part of Montana culture. He said Montana has many poets. The person that will be hired in this position will be in charge of the education process. He informed the Committee members how the position will be nominated, and how the person(s) that are nominated will go through the Arts Council. He talked about receiving an e-mail from the Director of the Montana Community for Humanities, and the Montana Center for the Book who would like to be included in this process. He discussed an amendment

that he had prepared for the bill, and distributed it to the Committee members (see Exhibit 5). He said the three bodies will make a recommendation to the Governor after the nominees are picked for the Governor to appoint. He stated that this position is a two-year appointment. He said other states have run into problems when they made this a lifetime position, because the Poet Laureate wanted to be the poet of the state for life, and it took some time to have that poet relinquish this post. By making the appointment for two years will alleviate this problem. He stated that there may be an amendment that will allow private funds so the Poet Laureate will be able to travel around the state. He said "we are all poets at some time". With the passage of this bill, the people in Montana will have the opportunity to express their literary expertise.

EXHIBIT(sts06a04)
EXHIBIT(sts06a05)

Proponents' Testimony:

Arlynn Fishbaugh, Executive Director, Montana Arts Council, stated her support for SB 69. She distributed written testimony which she read. She stated that Montana is well known nationally for its writers. When Montana writers send their manuscripts to publishers in New York City, and it has a Montana post mark on it, it is likely to be read. She urged the Committee to pass this bill.

EXHIBIT(sts06a06)

Opponents' Testimony: None.

Informational Testimony: None.

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

SEN. BALYEAT asked **Arlynn Fishbaugh** how the three bodies will vote on the nominations for this position, and how many members will there in each of these committees. **Ms. Fishbaugh** replied that process hasn't been determined at this time. She felt that it will probably be one member from the Arts Council, one member from the Center for the Book, and one member from the Center for Humanities.

SEN. BALYEAT wanted to know what is the Center for the Book, and how do you get appointed to the Center for the Book. **Ms. Fishbaugh** stated that she really didn't know, but did state that the Center for the Book is one of the primary sponsors behind the Montana Book Festival, and they are also involved in publishing.

She said there is a connection between the Montana Book Festival and the Library of Congress. She will find out more about the Center for the Book and get the information to him.

Closing by Sponsor:

SEN. KITZENBERG closed by reading a poem written by a professor he had at the University of Montana. He urged the Committee to pass SB 69.

{Tape: 2; Side: B; Approx. Time Counter: 9.6 - 22}

HEARING ON SB 25

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

SEN. VICKI COCCHIARELLA (D), SD 47, opened the hearing on **SB 25**, Simplify payment of wages for pages. She stated that the Legislative Council requested this bill. She said it is the legislators' responsibility to make every opportunity available to the citizens of Montana to make government work better. One of the ways is to invite pages (high school students) to visit the Legislature. She discussed the information on the fiscal note noting that there is a total of sixteen pages, eight on the Senate side and eight on the House side, that are invited each week to come to the Legislature, and assist in distributing notices to the legislators, and whatever is required of them. These pages are paid $5.15 per hour, Monday through Saturday, and are paid for 44 hours. The Legislature is considered an employer, and the state has to pay benefits, such as; unemployment, workers' compensation, and FICA/Medicare are paid out for a total of 7.97 percent of their salary. The total cost paid out for all pages for the 8 week period is $31,315. It takes approximately three hours per week for House and Senate personnel to ensure that the pages complete state and federal employment forms and report hours worked, and the financial office is provided information to hire and process payroll. Then the Legislative Services Division mails the paychecks and the W-2s to the pages, which take approximately 7 hours per week. This bill will bring pages in for "Civic Training", instead of being hired as an employee, and having to fill out all the paper work, and receive a 1099 (self employment tax) document. She stated that other states are currently doing this. She said that the bill will go into effect immediately upon passage, which will be approximately halfway through the Legislature. She urged the Committee to pass SB 25.

Proponents' Testimony: None.

Opponents' Testimony: None.

Informational Testimony: None.

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

SEN. BALYEAT asked **Lois Menzies** if this bill is to make the pay system better for the Legislative Council, why is there a negative fiscal note. **Ms. Menzies** responded that she was reluctant when putting the fiscal note together to suggest that the hours saved will generate money. She said that the money saved is through the time it takes the staff of the House and Senate, and the Legislative Services Division to process the paperwork. She said there could be a wage increase for the pages if this bill is approved, but she didn't feel that it would make an impact on the fiscal note.

Closing by Sponsor:

SEN. COCCHIARELLA closed stating that SB 25 will produce a better method for paying the wages to the pages as a training fee and not as an employee. She urged the Committee for a do pass motion.

{Tape: 3; Side: A}

HEARING ON SB 72

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

SEN. JEFF MANGAN (D), SD 12, opened the hearing on **SB 72,** Continuation of health insurance as a retirement incentive. He said this bill will provide a continuation of employer or retiree contributions to the state group health insurance. For every five years that the employee has contributed hours of service to the state the employee will receive one year of health benefits. He said there are a number of state employees who would like to retire or can retire, but they are not Medicare eligible. They continue to work because they need the health insurance. He stated this bill will save the state a lot of money, and allow those employees to retire that can or would like to, and bring fresh new employees into the system. **SEN. MANGAN** said this bill will be a significant savings for the state, and felt it would place money in the general fund. He said there is a fiscal note, which isn't available at this time.

Proponents' Testimony:

Tom Schneider, Executive Director for the Montana Public Employees Association (MPEA), informed the Committee that the MPEA felt this is the best bill that could be brought before the legislature. **Mr. Schneider** distributed his statement. He stated that he represents 7000 members of the MPEA who supported and adopted SB 72 by resolution at this years' convention. He reiterated that state employees are not able to retire when they would like to or should, because of the cost of health insurance. He said if a state employee retires before they are Medicare-eligible the cost is $425 per person per month to stay on the state health insurance. If that person is retiring from the University system the cost is $462 per month. He stated that productivity probably isn't as high as it should be, because the state is not bringing in young people like they should. **Mr. Schneider** stated this is a good bill, and he is willing to work with the legislators if they have any questions. He asked the Committee for their support, and urged them to pass this bill.

EXHIBIT(sts06a07)

Opponents' Testimony: None.

Informational Testimony:

Melanie Symons, Attorney for the MPEA, stated her support for SB 72. She distributed statistics on the number of state employees available for retirement, and their years of service. She informed the Committee members that the total number of employees eligible for retirement is 825. She said this bill is a cost savings to the state, and urged the Committee to pass SB 72.

EXHIBIT(sts06a08)

{Tape: 3; Side: A; Approx. Time Counter: 9.8 - 18}

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

SEN. LAIBLE asked **Tom Schneider** about vacancy savings, and if he had any concern by replacing these highly qualified, experienced personnel with entry level employees to take over these jobs. **Mr. Schneider** responded that he does see the need for "fine tuning" when replacing these higher skilled positions. He said that MPEA envisions replacement employees as those that are very qualified, and will have worked with the person that is eligible for retirement. He said what happens is people that are hired to replace the retiree, either isn't hired before that person is gone or the new employee doesn't start work until the retiree is

gone, so the person hired to replace the retiree doesn't receive any training. He said a lot of these positions are also filled with entry level employees.

SEN. ESSMANN asked about unfunded liability. **David Senn, Executive Director, Montana Teachers Retirement System (TRS),** responded that it is a one time assumption in a very narrow window with a small period of time. The impact of long-term projection, and what is seen in the retirement system is very minimal. He said there are very few state employees who participate or are eligible to retire, and stated there are approximately 35 employees who could retire at this time. He stated they average approximately five employees per year from all the state agencies, which excludes the University System. There will not be an impact on state funding. **Mr. Senn** said there are about 335 employees within the University System that could retire, but these employees are staying in the work force longer. He didn't know if it was for the reason of the health insurance. He feels this bill will not have any real fiscal impact due to early retirement.

Closing by Sponsor:

SEN. MANGAN closed stating this is a positive bill, and urged the Committee for a do pass motion.

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 5:05 P.M.

_____
SEN. CAROLYN SQUIRES, Chairman

_____
CLAUDIA JOHNSON, Secretary

CS/cj

Additional Exhibits:

EXHIBIT(sts06aad0.PDF)

SENATE STATE AFFAIRS
EXHIBIT NO. 4
DATE 1.10.05
BILL NO. 69

HONORARY POSITION OF STATE POET LAUREATE

Senate Bill No. 69

Prepared by
Senator Kitzenberg
&
Senator Cobb

Forgetfulness

The name of the author is the first to go
followed obediently by the title, the plot,
the heartbreaking conclusion, the entire novel
which suddenly becomes one you have never read, never
even heard of,

as if, one by one, the memories you used to harbor
decided to retire to the southern hemisphere of the brain,
to a little fishing village where there are no phones.

Long ago you kissed the nine Muses goodbye
and watched the quadratic equation pack its bag,
and even now as you memorize the order of the planets,

something else is slipping away, a state flower perhaps,
the address of an uncle, the capital of Paraguay.

Whatever it is you are struggling to remember
it is not poised on the tip of your tongue,
not even lurking in some obscure corner of your spleen.

It has floated away down a dark mythological river
whose name begins with an L as far as you can recall,
well on your own way to oblivion where you will join those
who have even forgotten how to swim and how to ride a
bicycle.

No wonder you rise in the middle of the night
to look up the date of a famous battle in a book on war.
No wonder the moon in the window seems to have drifted
out of a love poem that you used to know by heart.

--Billy Collins

2005 Montana Legislature

About Bill -- Links

SENATE BILL NO. 69

INTRODUCED BY J. COBB

A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE HONORARY POSITION OF STATE POET LAUREATE; PROVIDING FOR THE NOMINATION, APPOINTMENT, AND TERM OF THE STATE POET LAUREATE; PROVIDING FOR IMPLEMENTATION; AMENDING SECTION 22-2-106, MCA; AND PROVIDING AN IMMEDIATE EFFECTIVE DATE."

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

NEW SECTION. **Section 1. State poet laureate.** (1) There is a state poet laureate.

(2) Within 30 days prior to the expiration of the state poet laureate's term of appointment or within 30 days after a vacancy in the position occurs, the Montana arts council established in 22-2-101 shall nominate three individuals to be the state poet laureate. The Montana arts council shall provide the list of nominees to the governor who shall:

(a) within 30 days after receiving the list of nominees, appoint the state poet laureate from among the individuals named on the list; and

(b) notify the secretary of state and the Montana arts council of the appointment.

(3) The individual named by the governor as the state poet laureate shall serve for a term of 2 years beginning on the date of appointment by the governor.

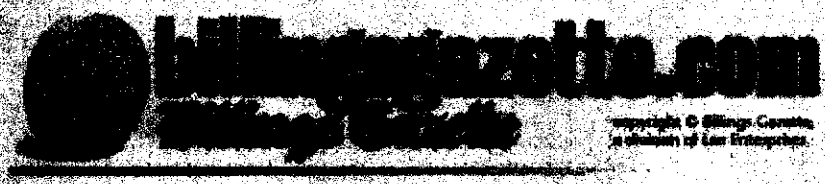
(4) The state poet laureate is an honorary position, and the person serving as the state poet laureate may not receive any compensation from the state for serving as the state poet laureate.

Section 2. Section 22-2-106, MCA, is amended to read:

"**22-2-106. Council duties.** The ~~duties of the~~ council shall ~~be to~~:

(1) encourage throughout the state the study and presentation of the arts and stimulate public interest and participation ~~therein~~ in the arts;

(2) cooperate with public and private institutions engaged within the state in artistic and cultural activities, including but not limited to music, theater, dance, painting, sculpture, architecture, and allied arts and crafts, and make recommendations concerning appropriate methods to encourage participation in and appreciation of the arts to meet the legitimate needs and aspirations of persons in all parts of the state;



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http://www.billingsgazette.com/index.php?display=rednews/2005/01/05/build/state/50-poet-laureate.inc

State poet laureate proposed

By ALLISON FARRELL
Gazette State Bureau

HELENA - Aside from a solution to the school funding problem and a new state budget, what Montana needs is its own poet laureate, Sen. Sam Kitzenberg, R-Glasgow, said Tuesday.

Kitzenberg, a high school English teacher, and Sen. John Cobb, R-Augusta, a rancher-lawyer, are co-sponsoring a bill in the 2005 Legislature that would create the top poetry post in Montana.

"I always felt we had an unwritten poet laureate with Richard Hugo at the University of Montana," Kitzenberg said. "This would be a way we could recognize some of our poets who have been able to capture what Montana really means."

The late and iconic Hugo gave voice to a generation of Montana poets and paved the way for the current generation of Montana writers, such as Maile Meloy and Deirdre McNamer, published in "The New Montana Story: An Anthology" in 2003.

"It's just a nice thing to do," Cobb said of the proposed post. "It doesn't solve any problems, but it's something the government does."

Under the bill, the Montana Arts Council would supply the governor with the names of three qualified Montana poets. The governor would then appoint a poet from the list to hold the honorary post for two years. The poet laureate would receive no compensation but would promote the arts throughout Montana.

"I think it's a grand idea," said Arni Fishbaugh, executive director of the Montana Arts Council. "Many other states have poet laureates, and Montana is known for the outstanding quality of its poets and writers."

Thirteen other states, including Utah and California, have state poet laureates, and four countries - Britain, Canada, France and the United States - also have the position.

The poet laureate concept was born in England in the early 1600s, when King James I commissioned a poem. The idea didn't jump the Atlantic for 300 years, until the United States created a poetry consultant post in 1937. The current post was created by Congress in 1985.

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What is a Poet Laureate?

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Poets Laureate, appointed by the Librarian of Congress, are entrusted with raising the status of poetry in the everyday conscience of the American public.

In 1616 King James I of England granted playwright and poet Ben Jonson a pension, thereby establishing the informal position of Poet Laureate. Jonson died in 1637 and a like pension was bestowed to William Davenant.

In 1668 the post of Poet Laureate was officially established as a royal office. As first decreed by Thomas Shadwell, the Poet Laureate of England's sole responsibility was to compose birthday poems and a special New Year's ode for the Royal Family. For more than 150 years this tradition was strictly adhered to until the dignity of the post began to erode to the point where both poet and royal were just going through the motions. Queen Victoria ended the sham and changed the honorific to a recognition of achievement in poetry. If the Poet Laureate feels the urge to compose a verse or two for the royal family, it is still looked upon favorably.

In the United States some local Poets Laureate were recognized in their communities in the 19th century but it was not until 1937 that a similar position to that in England was established in America. The American equivalent was the Poetry Consultant to the Library of Congress, a job that carried an impressive title but no pay. In 1985 the United States Congress created an official post with the creation of the Poet Laureate Consultant to the Library of Congress.

The Poet Laureate, in addition to legitimacy, now received an annual monetary stipend, currently $35,000. The money was funded by a gift from Archer M. Huntingdon, son of

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Poetry

Poets Laureate of the U.S.A.

A Net-annotated list

A Net-annotated list of all the poets who have served the Library of Congress as Consultant (the old title) or Poet Laureate Consultant (the new title). Biographies & general reference sites are linked to the poets' names -- many of them pages from the Academy of American Poets' Find a Poet archive, a growing & invaluable resource. If there is no general information site about the poet, we have searched the Net for sample poems or other writings or recordings & listed those below the poet's name.

- Joseph Auslander 1937-41
  His sonnet, "To My Despoiler"
- Allen Tate 1943-44
  His essay on writing poetry, "Narcissus As Narcissus"
- Robert Penn Warren 1944-45
- Louise Bogan 1945-46
- Karl Shapiro 1946-47
- Robert Lowell 1947-48
- Leonie Adams 1948-49
- Elizabeth Bishop 1949-50
- Conrad Aiken 1950-52 (First to serve two terms)
- William Carlos Williams
  Appointed to serve two terms in 1952 but did not serve -- for more on this & other Laureate controversies see the history in *Jacket* magazine
- Randall Jarrell 1957-58
- Robert Frost 1958-59

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Our 2000 feature article on him, "Stranded: Poet Mark Strand Preaches Political Indifference at UCI"

- Joseph Brodsky 1991-92
  Our 1997 feature article on him, "The Poet Is Gone, The Poems Live On"
- Mona Van Duyn 1992-93
- Rita Dove 1993-95
  A special Web edition of her poem "Lady Freedom Among Us"
- Robert Hass 1995-97
  Brigitte Mullins' introduction to his reading at DIA Center for the Arts
- Robert Pinsky 1997-2000
  His Favorite Poem Project
  Our review of his book, *The Sounds of Poetry*
- Stanley Kunitz 2000-2001
  Our collection of Kunitz quotes & links when he was appointed Laureate
- Billy Collins 2001-2003
  His Poetry 180 project to bring poetry into American high schools
  Our choice of two of his readings as Poetry MP3 Picks in honor of his laureateship
- Louise Glück 2003-2004
  Our links & comments when she was named Laureate

See the most recent Library of Congress press release (on Louise Glück's appointment) & the 1999 press release (when Robert Pinsky was reappointed to an unprecedented third term as Poet Laureate) for fact sheets & brief history of the U.S. Poet Laureate position.

Previous Feature Articles
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Poets Laureate of Great Britain.

Related pages:
★ Books of Poetry Form, ★ Alphabetic list of poetry forms and related topics, ★ Poetry Home-Sweet-Home, ★ How to Write Poetry.

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★ Ghazal, ★ Pantoum, ★ Sestina, ★ Sonnet, ★ Villanelle.

Poets Laureate of Great Britain
by Joan Zimmerman

★ History, ★ FAQs, ★ Notes on the laureated Poets, ★ Non-Laureated Poets,
★ Alphabetic List, ★ Chronological List, ★ Links, ★ Books.

[redacted]	Buy *Verses of the Poets Laureate: from John Dryden to Andrew Motion*, by Phillis Levin (Editor) and Andrew Motion (Introduction). It describes and shows the work of the 19 poets appointed as Poet Laureate since Charles II created the first in 1668.
Books newly read.	[redacted] Support us - buy at Amazon!

The greatest British Poets Laureate are Tennyson, William Wordsworth, and the first Laureate, John Dryden.

Several of the other Laureates were famous poets, particularly Ted Hughes, Robert Southey, John Masefield, Sir John Betjeman, Cecil Day-Lewis, and the current Laureate, Andrew Motion.

History and responsibilities.

In Great Britain, the Poet Laureate is:

- The realm's official poet.
- A member of the royal household.
- Charged with writing verses for court and national occasions (such as for a Royal Wedding or the New Year).
- Awarded the position for life.
- Chosen by the British reigning monarch, from a list of nominees that the Prime Minister compiles after a poet laureate dies.

Rowe, Nicholas (1674-1718)
Shadwell, Thomas (1642-1692)
Southey, Robert (1774-1843)
Tate, Nahum (1652-1715)
Tennyson, Alfred, Lord (1809-1892)
Wharton, Thomas (1728-1790)
Whitehead, William (1715-1785)
Wordsworth, William (1770-1850)

Chronological List of the Poets Laureate of Great Britain.

John Dryden (1631-1700)
Thomas Shadwell (1642-1692)
Nahum Tate (1652-1715)
Nicholas Rowe (1674-1718)
Laurence Eusden (1688-1730)
Colley Cibber (1671-1757)
William Whitehead (1715-1785)
Thomas Wharton (1728-1790)
Henry James Pye (1745-1813)
Robert Southey (1774-1843)
William Wordsworth (1770-1850)
Alfred, Lord Tennyson (1809-1892)
Alfred Austin (1835-1913)
Robert Bridges (1844-1930)
John Masefield (1878-1967)
Cecil Day-Lewis (1904-1972)
Sir John Betjeman (1906-1984)
Ted Hughes (1930-1998)
Andrew Motion (1952-)

Sketches on the Poets Laureate of Great Britain, in chronological order.
Or, see our lists of Poets Laureate in ★ Alphabetic Sequence, ★ Chronological Sequence.

- **John Dryden** (1631-1700),
  Laureate 1668-88.

  Appointed in 1668 by King Charles II, who gave John Dryden a formal royal warrant that awarded him the official titles of Poet Laureate and Historiographer Royal. This role continued under King James II.

Nicholas Rowe was celebrated as a dramatist rather than as a poet. The Poet Laureate's role was now general praise of the sovereign, rather than political and historical. In addition to the annual New Year ode, the Laureate acquired the duty of writing a birthday ode to the monarch, a practice which was to last over 100 years.

- **Laurence Eusden (1688-1730).**
  Laureate 1718-30.

  Eusden never published a book of poetry. His work is mediocre.

- **Colley Cibber (1671-1757).**
  Laureate 1730-57.

  The poetry of dramatist Colley Cibber was conscientious but not inspired.

- **William Whitehead (1715-85).**
  Laureate 1757-85. [The appointment was first offered to and declined by Thomas Gray.]

  William Whitehead (a respectable though perhaps dull dramatist) was good humored and amiable. For example, he defended the poetry of Laureates in a comic poem "A Pathetic Apology For All Laureates, Past, Present, And To Come".

  Whitehead was conscientious, and saw himself as a non-partisan spokesman for the whole country. Astonishingly for a political appointee, he appeared to see no requirement "to defend the King or support the government". Sadly, this reflects the idea that the Laureate's influence had weakened so much that the official poems were unlikely to influence opinions, even though the times were important politically, with rebellion in the American colonies and war in Europe.

- **Thomas Wharton (1728-90).**
  Laureate 1785-90. Professor of Poetry at Oxford, Wharton was the only eighteenth-century laureate who was not primarily a dramatist. William Wordsworth and Samuel Coleridge admired his work.

- **Henry James Pye (1745-1813).**
  Laureate 1790-1813.

  Before Pye's appointment, the Sovereign or the Lord Chamberlain (a member

A pompous man, least successful of the Poets Laureate.

- **Robert Bridges** (1844-1930).
  Laureate 1913-30.

  Uninterested in fame and praise, Bridges wrote little and destroyed his papers before his death.

- **John Masefield** (1878-1967).
  Laureate 1930-67.

  Born in Ledbury, Herefordshire, England, Masefield apprenticed to be a merchant marine officer. While training, he became ill in Chile, returned to England, then worked in factories and bars in the United States. In 1897 he returned to England, working on newspapers and his own writing (poems, stories, and plays). Masefield published his first volume of poems in 1902. He served during World War I in the Red Cross in France and on a hospital ship at Gallipoli. His simple and moving poems include the famous *Sea Fever*.

- **Cecil Day-Lewis** (1904-72).
  Laureate 1968-72.

  Anglo-Irish Cecil Day-Lewis was a poet, critic, and educator who enjoyed the honor of being the Poet Laureate. A student at Oxford with Auden. A committed Communist though naive politically. Hi poetry are often romantic and melancholy. Also he wrote detective stories (using the pseudonym Nicholas Blake).

- **Sir John Betjeman** (1906-84).
  Laureate 1972-84.

  Born in Highgate (North London). Sir John Betjeman wrote humorous and accessible poetry. Betjeman commemorated royal events such as The Queen's Silver Jubilee in 1977.

- **Ted Hughes** (1930-98).
  Laureate 1984-1998.

  Born in Yorkshire. A fierce, sometimes ferocious, poet of the natural and the mythological worlds, of "the struggle in the soil as well as in the soul" [Levin in *Verses of the Poets Laureate*]. Also authored poetry and plays for children.

court poet to King James I.

One of Jonson's most famous poems, "To Celia", begins "Drink to me, only, with thine eyes..". Buried upright in Westminster Abbey, standing on his feet in the northern aisle of the Nave (and not in Poets' Corner) beneath the inscription "O Rare Ben Johnson"

- William Davenant, or Sir William D'Avenant. After Jonson's death, dramatist Davenant [D'Avenant] inherited Jonson's office and pension, again as an unofficial appointment.

Links.

- Best Poems by the Best Poets - Some Lists of Winners.
- Poets Laureate of the United States of America.

Books about the Poets Laureate of Great Britain.

Verses of the Poets Laureate: from John Dryden to Andrew Motion, by Phillis Levin (Editor) and Andrew Motion (Introduction). Background on each Poet Laureate and samples of their work. Laureate Andrew Motion introduces the collection with his thoughts on what his predecessors achieved and what he plans to accomplish.

Related Books.

- *The Best American Poetry: 2004*, Editor Lyn Hejinian.
- *The Best American Poetry: 2003*, Editor Yusef Komunyakaa.
- *The Best American Poetry: 2002*, Editor Robert Creeley.
- *The Best American Poetry: 2000*, Editor Rita Dove.
- *The Best American Poetry: 2001*, Editor Robert Hass.
- *The Best American Poetry: 1999*, Editor Robert Bly.

Books on Other Poetry Forms.	[redacted] Support us - buy at Amazon!	NEW! Hot new books on writing poetry.

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(3) foster public interest in the cultural heritage of our state and expand the state's cultural resources;

(4) encourage and assist freedom of artistic expression essential for the well-being of the arts;

(5) as required under [section 1], nominate three individuals to serve as the state poet laureate and provide the list of nominees to the governor."

NEW SECTION. **Section 3. Implementation.** The Montana arts council shall provide to the governor before July 1, 2005, a list of three nominees for the position of state poet laureate provided for in [section 1]. The governor shall appoint a state poet laureate within 30 days following receipt of the list of appointees. Subsequent nominations and appointments as state poet laureate must be made as provided in [section 1].

NEW SECTION. **Section 4. Codification instruction.** [Section 1] is intended to be codified as an integral part of Title 2, chapter 15, and the provisions of Title 2, chapter 15, apply to [section 1].

NEW SECTION. **Section 5. Effective date.** [This act] is effective on passage and approval.

- END -

Latest Version of SB 69 *(SB0069.01)*

Processed for the Web on December 14, 2004 (9:24am)

New language in a bill appears underlined, deleted material appears stricken.

Sponsor names are handwritten on introduced bills, hence do not appear on the bill until it is reprinted.

See the status of this bill for the bill's primary sponsor.

Status of this Bill | 2005 Legislature | Leg. Branch Home

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  "Reveille" & 4 other poems at Daypoems
- Howard Nemerov 1963-64
- Reed Whittemore 1964-65
- Stephen Spender 1965-66
- James Dickey 1966-68
- William Jay Smith 1968-70
  His "Epigrams"
- William Stafford 1970-71
- Josephine Jacobsen 1971-73
  Her letter to William Meredith
- Daniel Hoffman 1973-74
- Stanley Kunitz 1974-76
- Robert Hayden 1976-78
- William Meredith 1978-80
- Maxine Kumin 1981-82
- Anthony Hecht 1982-84
- Robert Fitzgerald 1984-85 (Appointed and served in a health-limited capacity, but did not come to the Library of Congress)
- Reed Whittemore 1984-85 (Interim Consultant in Poetry)
- Gwendolyn Brooks 1985-86
- Robert Penn Warren 1986-87 (First to be designated Poet Laureate Consultant in Poetry)
- Richard Wilbur 1987-88
- Howard Nemerov 1988-90
- Mark Strand 1990-91

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one of the quartet of founders of the Central Pacific Railroad that worked on the Transcontinental Railroad. Huntingdon was not similarly inclined to business and spent his life in philanthropic pursuits. "Wherever I put my foot down, a museum springs up," he once said.

British Poets Laureate serve for life and since 1668 there have been only 19 poets so honored (no women). In the United States, the Poet Laureate is appointed by the Librarian of Congress to a single term, serving from October to May (there have been many women Poets Laureate). In making the selection, the Librarian of Congress seeks the consul of past and present Poets Laureate and other distinguished poetry critics.

The official duties of a Poet Laureate are few. There is one annual lecture and a poetry reading but little beyond that. The general mandate is to raise the status of poetry in the everyday conscience of the American public. Each Poet Laureate is free to pursue an individual agenda which are predictably diverse. During his service, Poet Laureate Joseph Brodsky spearheaded a movement to place poetry in airports, supermarkets and hotel rooms. Poet Laureate Gwendolyn Brooks spent her tenure meeting with elementary school students encouraging them to write poetry. Poet Laureate Robert Haas sought to integrate poetry into the fabric of the community with his "Watershed" conference that united novelists, storytellers and poets to talk about their work.

Clearly, the position of Poet Laureate has come a long way since the days when a poet was expected to string together a few rhymes for a royal birthday party.

Written by *Doug Gelbert*

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<<Mystery and miracle plays in English drama

Understanding the basics of metaphor in poetry>>

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Shortly after the 1668, the position became the Poet Laureate of *Great Britain* in 1707, when The Act of Union created "Great Britain" as the political name of England, Scotland, and Wales.

The name *Laureate* derives from the Latin *laureatus* ("crowned with laurel"). It comes from an ancient Roman tradition of honoring a person (especially a poet) who has shown excellence of achievement. The honor is signified by presenting the person with a wreath of laurel leaves.

FAQs (Frequently Asked Questions) on the Poets Laureate of Great Britain.

1. What does "Laureate" mean? Answer.
2. Who was the best? Most frequently this is said to be Tennyson.
3. Who was the worst? Several contenders. The winner is one of: Colley Cibber, Laurence Eusden, Henry James Pye, and William Whitehead.
4. Wasn't Ben Johnson the first Poet Laureate? Not officially. In the Middle Ages and Renaissance, many monarch and other leaders patronized writers, who repaid the favor by praising their sponsors. One example is Jonson received a pension from James I, unofficially for writing masques.
5. Which Poet Laureate was dismissed from his job? John Dryden. And why? See notes on John Dryden.
6. How many Poets Laureate (including the one present in 2002) have there been? 19 people have held the position of Poet Laureate.
7. Who was the longest serving Poet Laureate? Alfred, Lord Tennyson held the post for 42 years.
8. What is the job description? There isn't one! A major challenge of the unique post is the freedom for the poet who accepts the role. Each poet has shaped it in their unique way.

Alphabetic List of the Poets Laureate of Great Britain.

Austin, Alfred (1835-1913)
Betjeman, Sir John (1906-1984)
Bridges, Robert (1844-1930)
Cibber, Colley (1671-1757)
Day-Lewis, Cecil (1904-1972)
Dryden, John (1631-1700)
Eusden, Laurence (1688-1730)
Hughes, Ted (1930-1998)
Masefield, John (1878-1967)
Motion, Andrew (1952-)
Pye, Henry (1745-1813)

Despite the "no obligations" clause, Hughes did write in commemoration of royal events, such as the christening of Prince Henry of Wales in 1985.

- **Andrew Motion** (1952-present).
  Laureate 1998-present.

  Andrew Motion, an acclaimed poet and biographer, teaches creative writing at the University of East Anglia. He promotes poetry among young people. His poems addressing many public events as well and royal occasions, including the 100th birthday of Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother. A critic, and a free-form poet who interweaves the personal, the historical, the legendary, and the political.

Not-quite Poets Laureate of Great Britain.

These poets were not Poets Laureate, for the reasons given.

- **Ben Jonson** (1573-1637), a playwright and poet, a volatile satirist of explosive temperament and "a great lover and praiser of himself", was not formally appointed as Poet Laureate. John Dryden was the first appointed Poet Laureate, as shown by the official royal record (starts in a new window).

  At best, Jonson was a "common law" poet laureate (as in "common law" husband).

  Some believe Jonson to be the greatest English poet and dramatist of the seventeenth century. Many praise his charm and good humor. His vigor and productivity is clear.

  Jonson learned the trade of bricklayer, fought with English troops in Flanders, then returned to London to become an actor and playwright, a writer of masques (short pageant-like plays), and a tutor to Sir Walter Raleigh's son.

  In 1597 Jonson was imprisoned for involvement in the satire *The Isle of Dogs*, which authorities found seditious. He was tried for killing a fellow actor in a duel in 1598. Imprisioned for this, he converted to Catholicism to be spared death for murder. He was released provided that he forfeit all his possessions, and that he receive a felon's brand on his thumb.

  Charged with treason for his tragedy *Sejanus, His Fall* (1603) and then briefly imprisoned for views in *Eastward Ho* (1604), Jonson (a Catholic) was under deep suspicion after Guy Fawkes' Gunpowder Plot (1605). This situation may have motivated him, shortly thereafter, to reconvert to Anglicanism. He did become

of the Royal Household) awarded the Poet Laureateship directly. William Pitt (the first Prime Minister involved in appointing a Laureate) offered the position to Henry James Pye, a politician more than a poet. Thereafter, the Prime Minister submits names for royal approval. Then the monarch commands the Lord Chamberlain to issue a warrant of appointment.

- **Robert Southey** (1774-1843).
  Laureate 1813-43. [In a bizarre double-offer the appointment was offered to two writers concurrently. Fortunately, Sir Walter Scott turned down the approach by Prime Minister, Lord Liverpool.]

  Robert Southey accepted the suggestion of the post from the Prince Regent. When Scott declined the offer, he suggested Southey also, so the situation ended well.

  During Southey's tenure, George IV became monarch in 1820, and abandoned the requirement for regular odes to the monarch.

- **William Wordsworth** (1770-1850).
  Laureate 1843-50.

  William Wordsworth, at 73, was the oldest Poet Laureate to be appointed. He accepted the position on the agreement that he would not have obligations to write poetry on demand.

  Since Wordsworth, the job of Poet Laureate has been purely honorary, and appointees have been able to interpret the role as they wish.

- **Alfred, Lord Tennyson** (1809-92).
  Laureate 1850-92. [The appointment was first offered to and (to our benefit) declined by Samuel Rogers.]

  Alfred Tennyson raised the stature of the Poet Laureate hugely. His laureate poems include *The Charge Of The Light Brigade* (the suicidal charge by the Light Brigade down a valley at Balaclava during the Crimean war).

  Tennyson's death was mourned publicly by millions. In respect, no appointment was made to the post of Poet Laureate for four years.

- **Alfred Austin** (1835-1913).
  Laureate 1896-1913.

As a powerful satirist, Dryden was a strong advocate and spokesman for his monarch, and "the best poet, dramatist, translator and critic of the age" [Levin in *Verses of the Poets Laureate*]

In 1689, sacked [or fired] by William III for failing to take an oath of allegiance.

- **Thomas Shadwell (1643?-1692).**
  Laureate 1689-92.

The successful dramatist Thomas Shadwell was chosen in large part because he was a Protestant Whig, essential to replace the Catholic Dryden. met an inglorious end in 1693,

A weak poet, a heavy drinker, and an opium user, Shadwell died from an overdose of opium, which he took in part to relieve his gout. He was said to have found the laureateship unimportant. Disrespected by John Dryden, among others, for his poetry as well as for his politics.

Shadwell wrote a yearly ode on the monarch's birthday, and introduced the tradition of writing a New Year ode; his odes are crashingly uninspired and mechanistic, as if written by an unusually dimwitted computer program.

- **Nahum Tate (1652-1715).**
  Laureate 1692-1715.

Born in Dublin, Tate was awarded the Poet Laureate position (and its £100 per year) but the post of Historiographer Royal (and its annual £200) became a separate assignment.

Tate is most known today for his authorship of the widely loved Christmas carol "While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks By Night". He is notorious for his (creative?) revision of Shakespeare's tragedy *King Lear*, giving it a happy ending.

In response to public events, Tate wrote poems for victories against the French (1704), the Act of Union between the Parliaments of England and Scotland (1707), and the signing of the Peace of Utrecht with France (1713).

- **Nicholas Rowe (1674-1718).**
  Laureate 1715-18.

SENATE STATE ADMIN.
EXHIBIT NO. 5
DATE 1.10.05
BILL NO. 69

Amendments to Senate Bill No. 69
1st Reading Copy

Requested by Senator Sam Kitzenberg

For the Senate State Administration Committee

Prepared by Dave Bohyer
January 10, 2005 (10:00am)

1. Page 1, line 13.
Following: "occurs,"
Insert: "the Montana committee for the humanities, the Montana center for the book, and"

2. Page 1, line 18.
Following: "state"
Insert: ", the Montana committee for the humanities, the Montana center for the book,"

- END -

MONTANA ARTS COUNCIL
Boosting local economies, revitalizing communities and improving education through the arts

SENATE STATE ADMIN.
EXHIBIT NO. 6
DATE 1.10.05
BILL NO. 69

BRIAN SCHWEITZER
GOVERNOR

316 NORTH PARK AVENUE
CITY-COUNTY BUILDING, ROOM 252

STATE OF MONTANA

(406) 444-6430
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January 9, 2005

Testimony from Arlynn Fishbaugh, Executive Director
Montana Arts Council

In Support of SB 69, Creation of a Montana Poet Laureate

Good afternoon Madame Chairman and members of the committee. For the record, my name is Arni Fishbaugh and I am the Executive Director of the Montana Arts Council.

The Montana Arts Council supports this bill and we are pleased to participate in the administration of the program.

We concur that a partnership of the Montana Arts Council, the Montana Committee for the Humanities and the Montana Center for the Book would make a strong nominating group for the Poet Laureate. Creating a partnership for nominations would be helpful to the arts council, since all of the panels we'd normally convene for Literature awards have been eliminated due to legislative budget cuts.

This award makes great sense in Montana, known nationally for the prowess of our writers. We urge your support for this bill, as well.

Thank you.

Arlynn Fishbaugh

MINUTES

MONTANA SENATE
59th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON STATE ADMINISTRATION

Call to Order: By **CHAIRMAN CAROLYN SQUIRES**, on January 14, 2005 at 3:00 P.M., in Room 335 Capitol.

ROLL CALL

Members Present:
Sen. Carolyn Squires, Chairman (D)
Sen. Joe Balyeat (R)
Sen. Vicki Cocchiarella (D)
Sen. Mike Cooney (D)
Sen. Jeff Essmann (R)
Sen. Steven Gallus (D)
Sen. Rick Laible (R)
Sen. Dave Lewis (R)
Sen. Jim Shockley (R)
Sen. Joseph (Joe) Tropila (D)

Members Excused: Sen. Jon Ellingson (D)

Members Absent: None.

Staff Present: Dave Bohyer, Legislative Branch
Claudia Johnson, Committee Secretary

Please Note. These are summary minutes. Testimony and discussion are paraphrased and condensed.

Committee Business Summary:
Hearing & Date Posted: None.
Executive Action: SB 16, SB 23, SB 81, SB 25, SB 54, SB 69, SB 89

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 16

Motion: SEN. TROPILA moved that SB 16 DO PASS.

Motion: SEN. TROPILA moved amendment SB001603.adb DO PASS.

EXHIBIT(sts10a01)

Discussion: SEN. BALYEAT wanted to know why would the Governor's office run public service announcements (PSAs) for in-state when they are run out-of-state. **SEN. COONEY** informed him that the PSAs are to remind Montanans to invite their out-of-state friends to Montana. **SEN. COONEY** also stated he will vote no on this amendment. **SEN. GALLUS** said he was also going to vote no on the amendment.

Vote: Voice vote was taken, motion failed 0-11.

Motion/Vote: SEN. TROPILA moved amendment SB001601.adb DO PASS. Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

EXHIBIT(sts10a02)

Motion/Vote: SEN. BALYEAT moved amendment SB001602.adb DO PASS. Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

EXHIBIT(sts10a03)

Motion/Vote: SEN. TROPILA moved that SB 16 DO PASS AS AMENDED. Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 23

{Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Time Counter: 19.8 - 25}

Motion: SEN. COCCHIARELLA moved that SB 23 DO PASS.

Discussion: SEN. COCCHIARELLA informed the Committee that this bill came from the Legislative Counsel, State Information Technology, and the Office of Budget Program and Planning.

Motion/Vote: SEN. COCCHIARELLA moved amendment SB002301.alm DO PASS. Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

EXHIBIT(sts10a04)

Motion/Vote: SEN. COCCHIARELLA moved that SB 23 DO PASS AS AMENDED. Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 81

{Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Time Counter: 26.4 - 26.6}

Motion/Vote: SEN. GALLUS moved that SB 81 DO PASS.

Motion/Vote: SEN. GALLUS moved amendment SB008101.ash DO PASS. Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

EXHIBIT(sts10a05)

Motion/Vote: SEN. GALLUS moved that SB 81 DO PASS AS AMENDED. Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 25

{Tape: 1; Side: B}

Motion/Vote: SEN. COCCHIARELLA moved that SB 25 DO PASS. Motion carried 10-1 by voice vote with SEN. BALYEAT voting no.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 54

{Tape: 1; Side: B; Approx. Time Counter: 8 - 10}

Motion/Vote: SEN. COCCHIARELLA moved that SB 54 DO PASS.

Motion/Vote: SEN. LAIBLE moved amendment SB005401.adb DO PASS. Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

EXHIBIT(sts10a06)

Motion/Vote: SEN. SHOCKLEY moved that SB 54 DO PASS AS AMENDED. Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 69

{Tape: 1; Side: B; Approx. Time Counter: 11 - 13}

Motion: SEN. GALLUS moved that SB 69 DO PASS.

Motion: SEN. GALLUS moved that amendment SB006901.adb DO PASS.

EXHIBIT(sts10a07)

Discussion: The Committee discussed how the amendment will give the Center for the Book controlling interest.

Substitute Motion/Vote: SEN. GALLUS made a substitute motion to RECONSIDER THE MOTION and table AMENDMENT SB06901.adb. Substitute motion carried 7-4 by voice vote.

Motion/Vote: SEN. GALLUS moved SB 69 . Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 73

{Tape: 1; Side: B; Approx. Time Counter: 13.7 - 25}

Motion: SEN. TROPILA moved that SB 73 DO PASS.

Discussion: SEN. COONEY said he is uncomfortable with this bill. He feels the two sides are trying to involve the legislature in a turf battle. He would like to postpone the bill, and give the two groups time to communicate.

SEN. GALLUS felt that the Officer's Museum should stay in Deer Lodge, and said he will not be able to support the bill.

SEN. BALYEAT informed the Committee that he has talked with both groups. He said this bill has made the issue to move the Museum from Deer Lodge to Great Falls an unlevel playing field. He stated it needs to be passed out of committee and allow them to work out the issue.

Substitute Motion/Vote: SEN. LEWIS made a substitute motion that SB 73 BE TABLED. Substitute motion failed 4-7 with SENATOR BALYEAT, SENATOR ESSMANN, SENATOR LAIBLE, AND SENATOR SHOCKLEY voting aye.

{Tape: 2; Side: A}

Motion/Vote: SEN. TROPILA moved that SB 73 BE INDEFINITELY POSTPONED AND THE VOTE REVERSED. Motion carried 7-4 by roll call vote with SENATOR BALYEAT, SENATOR ESSMANN, SENATOR LAIBLE, AND SENATOR SHOCKLEY voting no.

The Committee discussed the bill and the table vote. They made the decision to hold off on the motion. **CHAIRWOMAN SQUIRES** asked **SEN. COONEY, VICE CHAIRMAN,** if he would mediate between the two groups to get a handle on what is really happening before the Committee takes action on this bill.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 89

{Tape: 2; Side: A; Approx. Time Counter: 7 - 12}

Motion: SEN. LAIBLE moved that SB 89 DO PASS.

Discussion: The Committee Members discussed the bill and feel it politicizes the issues.

Motion/Vote: SEN. GALLUS moved that SB 8 BE TABLED. Motion carried 7-4 by roll call vote with SENATOR BALYEAT, SENATOR ESSMANN, SENATOR LAIBLE, AND SENATOR SHOCKLEY voting no. SEN. ELLINGSON voted aye by proxy.

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 4:15 P.M.

_____
SEN. CAROLYN SQUIRES, Chairman

_____
CLAUDIA JOHNSON, Secretary

CS/cj

Additional Exhibits:

EXHIBIT(sts10aad0.PDF)

SENATE STATE ADMIN.
EXHIBIT NO. 7
DATE 1.14.05
BILL NO. SB69

Amendments to Senate Bill No. 69
1st Reading Copy

Requested by Senator Sam Kitzenberg

For the Senate State Administration Committee

Prepared by Dave Bohyer
January 10, 2005 (10:00am)

1. Page 1, line 13.
Following: "occurs,"
Insert: "the Montana committee for the humanities, the Montana center for the book, and"

2. Page 1, line 18.
Following: "state"
Insert: ", the Montana committee for the humanities, the Montana center for the book,"

- END -

MINUTES

MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
59th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON STATE ADMINISTRATION

Call to Order: By **CHAIRMAN LARRY JENT,** on March 8, 2005 at 8:00 A.M., in Room 455 Capitol.

ROLL CALL

Members Present:
Rep. Larry Jent, Chairman (D)
Rep. Dee L. Brown, Vice Chairman (R)
Rep. Joan Andersen (R)
Rep. Mary Caferro (D)
Rep. Sue Dickenson (D)
Rep. Emelie Eaton (D)
Rep. Robin Hamilton (D)
Rep. Gordon R. Hendrick (R)
Rep. Teresa K. Henry (D)
Rep. Hal Jacobson (D)
Rep. William J. Jones (R)
Rep. Gary MacLaren (R)
Rep. Bruce Malcolm (R)
Rep. Alan Olson (R)
Rep. Bernie Olson (R)

Members Excused: Rep. Veronica Small-Eastman, Vice Chairman (D)

Members Absent: None.

Staff Present: Sheri Heffelfinger, Legislative Branch
Marion Mood, Committee Secretary

Please Note. These are summary minutes. Testimony and discussion are paraphrased and condensed.

Committee Business Summary:

Hearing & Date Posted:	SB 53, 3/3/2005; SB54, 3/3/2005; SB 16, 2/22/2005
Executive Action:	SB 69; SB 53; SB 54; SB 16

HEARING ON SB 53

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

SEN. CAROLYN SQUIRES (D), SD 48, opened the hearing on **SB 53**, Revise law on reduction-in-force and relocation expenses. She explained that in the past, each agency was required to place $2,000 with the local Job Service office for displaced employees' relocation expenses. SB 53 would remove this responsibility from the agencies and place it with the Department of Administration.

Proponents' Testimony:

Randy Morris, Administrator, Department of Administration, stated this bill addressed a portion of the Employee Protection Act which required that relocation expenses had to be paid by the hiring agency which would then be reimbursed through funds appropriated for this purpose. He advised this was never codified and thus had no value, even though it was widely assumed to be valid. The State Personnel Division issued relocation guidelines in September 2004 which provided guidance and contained policies which agencies could adopt. He expressed hope that the Committee would pass this housekeeping bill.

Opponents' Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

There were no questions.

Closing by Sponsor:

SEN. SQUIRES closed.
{Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Time Counter: 0 - 9.2}

HEARING ON SB 54

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

SEN. CAROLYN SQUIRES (D), SD 48, opened the hearing on **SB 54**, Clarify state mileage reimbursement rate for use of a private vehicle. She explained State employees had three options when traveling on State business: they can use a motor pool vehicle; if there is no car available and they have to use their own, the reimbursement is at the IRS-sanctioned mileage rate; if they use their own vehicle even though a State car is available, the reimbursement is 48.15% of the 37.5 cent rate as a means to discourage the use of personal vehicles because of insurance and liability issues.

Proponents' Testimony:

Steve Bender, Deputy Director, Department of Administration, stated this bill was a housekeeping bill, requested as the result of an audit recommendation. He explained that the reimbursement rate for those using their own vehicles by choice was reduced in the Special Session of 2002 in order to save money and to provide incentive to use the State motor pool.

Opponents' Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

REP. BRUCE MALCOLM, HD 61, EMIGRANT, asked Mr. Bender about the actual mileage rate. **Mr. Bender** advised that the 2005 rate is 40.5 cents. This rate applies to everyone except those who use their own vehicles by choice; they get 48.15% of the 39.5 cents, or 19.5 cents.

Closing by Sponsor:

SEN. SQUIRES closed.

HEARING ON SB 69

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

SEN. SAM KITZENBERG (R), SD 18, opened the hearing on **SB 69,** Designation of state poet laureate at **SEN. JOHN COBB's** request. **SEN. KITZENBERG** talked about a variety of reasons why there should be such a designation and provided Exhibit 1. He added that several other states and some European countries have a State Poet Laureate and proceeded to review the bill. In closing, he read from a poem by Richard Hugo, "Driving Montana." **EXHIBIT(sth51a01)**

Proponents' Testimony: None

Opponents' Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

There were none.

Closing by Sponsor:

SEN. KITZENBERG closed.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 69

Motion: **REP. HENDRICK moved that SB 69 BE CONCURRED IN.**

Discussion:

VICE CHAIR DEE BROWN, HD 3, HUNGRY HORSE, stated she would not vote for this bill, deeming it rather superfluous.

CHAIRMAN JENT advised he would vote for the bill.

{Tape: 1; Side: B}

Vote: **Motion carried 15-1 by voice vote with REP. BROWN voting no; REPS. DICKENSON and SMALL-EASTMAN voted aye by proxy.**

REP. HAMILTON agreed to carry the bill.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 53

Motion/Vote: **REP. B. OLSON moved that SB 53 BE CONCURRED IN. Motion carried unanimously by voice vote; REPS. DICKENSON and SMALL-EASTMAN voted aye by proxy.**

Motion/Vote: **REP. JACOBSON moved that SB 53 BE PLACED ON THE CONSENT CALENDAR. Motion carried unanimously; REPS. DICKENSON and SMALL-EASTMAN voted aye by proxy.**

REP. HAL JACOBSON will carry the bill on the House floor.

HEARING ON SB 62

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

SEN. GARY PERRY (R), SD 35, opened the hearing on **SB 62,** Clarify that contested case decision must be in writing. **SEN. PERRY** advised this bill would eliminate any ambiguity which might exist regarding what constituted a final agency decision.

Proponents' Testimony: None

Opponents' Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

VICE CHAIR BROWN asked the Sponsor whether a second opinion would have to be issued if the court changed their position. **SEN. PERRY** referred to the appeals procedure on Page 3, Section 4 (2)

(a) of the bill, stating this served to clarify that the final decision conformed to the oral pronouncement and that the appeal did not have to be submitted prior to the written decision.

REP. ALAN OLSON, HD 45, ROUNDUP, referred to the same section of the bill and asked whether there were any guidelines requiring agencies to issue written decisions in a timely fashion. **SEN. PERRY** replied that he was sponsoring another bill which had put the time limit at 90 days but because some agencies had objected to the time limit during the hearing, he had extended it to 180 days. **REP. A. OLSON** contended this might interfere with some permitting decisions and wreak havoc with time frames. **SEN. PERRY** explained this applied to time constraints with regard to agency decisions. **REP. A. OLSON** replied that a lot of work has gone into encouraging agencies to follow strict time lines. He added he did not object to the issuance of written decisions but was concerned with the additional amount of time it would take. **SEN. PERRY** pointed out this was the purpose of the bill as there had never been a time limit; the decision had to be issued within 90 days, and the time limit for appeals was 30 days which is consistent with existing law. **REP. A. OLSON** wondered whether his other bill was headed to the Committee, which **SEN. PERRY** did not know.

In order to acquaint the Committee with these procedures, **CHAIRMAN JENT** advised that within agencies, there were a number of administrative law judges with expertise in agency functions, such as water adjudication or child support enforcement, who perform quasi-judicial functions and hold hearings. He asked the Sponsor if this was correct, which **SEN. PERRY** confirmed. **CHAIRMAN JENT** surmised the provisions in SB 62 made sure that when a decision is rendered, it is in writing, and the date of the written decision is the start of the time line for appeals.

Closing by Sponsor:

SEN. PERRY closed.

CHAIRMAN JENT agreed to carry the bill.
{Tape: 1; Side: B; Approx. Time Counter: 0 - 14.2}

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 54

Motion: REP. BROWN moved that SB 54 BE CONCURRED IN.

Discussion:

REP. A. OLSON advised the provisions in this bill dated back to the 2001 Special Session when a number of Department of Correction employees commuted to Helena on a regular basis, using their personal cars. He agreed that employees should be encouraged to use motor pool vehicles whenever possible because of the cost savings, stating this was good policy.

VICE CHAIR BROWN concurred, adding this was pointed out by the Audit Committee as well.

REP. GORDON HENDRICK, HD 14, SUPERIOR, felt the insurance issue was part of it, adding he would vote for the bill.

REP. TERESA HENRY, HD 96, MISSOULA, stated she understood the arguments but felt that she would be risking her life in some state-owned vehicles because of poor maintenance.

Vote: Motion carried unanimously by voice vote; REPS. DICKENSON and SMALL-EASTMAN voted aye by proxy.

Motion/Vote: REP. HENDRICK moved that SB 54 BE PLACED ON THE CONSENT CALENDAR. Motion carried unanimously by voice vote; REPS. DICKENSON and SMALL-EASTMAN voted aye by proxy.

REP. ROBIN HAMILTON agreed to carry SB 54 on the House floor.

{Tape: 1; Side: B; Approx. Time Counter: 13.9 - 19.9}

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 16

Motion: REP. A. OLSON moved that SB 16 BE CONCURRED IN.

Motion: REP. JACOBSON moved that AMENDMENT SB001601.ASH BE ADOPTED.
EXHIBIT(sth51a02)

Discussion:

VICE CHAIR BROWN felt this bill should not have this type of amendments as there should not be any exceptions to the bill.

REP. HAL JACOBSON, HD 82, HELENA, advised the amendment was the result of his conversations with Betsy Baumgart who heads up the travel promotion bureau. He asked VICE CHAIR BROWN whether she had talked with Ms. Baumgart after this amendment had been drafted. **VICE CHAIR BROWN** replied it was right after the bill

was heard that Ms. Baumgart expressed concerns because it was not spelled out who would be paying for the announcements.

REP. JACOBSON asked the Chair's permission to question someone in the audience. Permission was granted and **REP. JACOBSON** posed the question to Ms. Anna Marie Moe, Montana Department of Commerce, Travel Promotion Division. **Ms. Moe** stated while they could do the production before the candidate for Governor filed for office, the concern was the payment for the ad's placement. She stated this was why they had requested the exemption.

VICE CHAIR BROWN reiterated that the ads could still be produced as the bill did not deny payment for the production, adding she did not think the exemption was necessary.

CHAIRMAN JENT reviewed Section 1 (4) with the Committee, adding this portion was the crux of the bill. **Sheri Heffelfinger, Legislative Services Division,** advised that key language was "may not use or permit the use of State funds for any advertisement."

CHAIRMAN JENT stated pointed to Item 3 of the amendments and stated it created a second subsection with regard to the "Made in Montana" and the Governor's "Invite a Friend" programs.

REP. A. OLSON stated one would have to be a declared candidate in order for the bill's provisions to take effect.

Ms. Heffelfinger confirmed this, adding once a candidate filed, the two programs would be subject to the limitations of SB 16.

REP. A. OLSON stated that one became a candidate upon filing with the Commissioner of Political Practices.

{Tape: 2; Side: A}

REP. B. OLSON surmised the only candidate who could get around these provisions was the candidate for Governor; he felt the rules should apply to everyone and stated he would vote against the amendment.

REP. JACOBSON reminded the Committee that the State Auditor seemed to have taken advantage of public announcements as well, which benefitted his campaign. As to the two programs, he clarified while the production costs are paid for ahead of time, media spots are not paid for until they are scheduled to run. He agreed with REP. B. OLSON that some of the language was exclusionary.

VICE CHAIR BROWN felt that Travel Montana should be more creative with regard to the ads, especially in election years, suggesting the ads should be produced featuring someone other than the Governor.

REP. GARY MACLAREN, HD 89, VICTOR, expressed his opposition to the amendments for the same reasons, adding that no candidate should be able to advertise using public funds.

(REP. DICKENSON returned at 9:05 A.M.)

REP. MALCOLM stated the bill was fine as written, without the amendment.

CHAIRMAN JENT opined the more exemptions were added into a bill, the more the intent was diluted.

In response to REP. A. OLSON'S earlier question, **Ms. Heffelfinger** advised that candidacy is triggered by either the actual filing for office or the acceptance or solicitation of campaign contributions.

Vote: Motion failed 2-14 by roll call vote with REP. JACOBSON and REP. JONES voting aye; REP. SMALL-EASTMAN voted no by proxy.

Motion/Vote: VICE CHAIR BROWN moved that SB 16 BE CONCURRED IN AS AMENDED. Motion carried 15-1 by voice vote with REP. JONES voting no; REP. SMALL-EASTMAN voted aye by proxy.

REP. JACOBSON agreed to carry the bill on the House floor.
{Tape: 2; Side: A; Approx. Time Counter: 0 - 10.7}

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 9:15 A.M.

_____
REP. LARRY JENT, Chairman

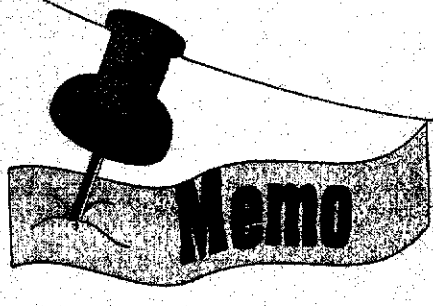
_____
MARION MOOD, Secretary

LJ/mm

Additional Exhibits:

EXHIBIT(sth51aad0.PDF)

EXHIBIT 1
DATE 3-8-05
SB 69



HONORARY POSITION OF STATE POET LAUREATE

Senate Bill No. 69

Prepared by

Senator Kitzenberg

&

Senator Cobb

Forgetfulness

The name of the author is the first to go
followed obediently by the title, the plot,
the heartbreaking conclusion, the entire novel
which suddenly becomes one you have never read, never
even heard of,

as if, one by one, the memories you used to harbor
decided to retire to the southern hemisphere of the brain,
to a little fishing village where there are no phones.

Long ago you kissed the nine Muses goodbye
and watched the quadratic equation pack its bag,
and even now as you memorize the order of the planets,

something else is slipping away, a state flower perhaps,
the address of an uncle, the capital of Paraguay.

Whatever it is you are struggling to remember
it is not poised on the tip of your tongue,
not even lurking in some obscure corner of your spleen.

It has floated away down a dark mythological river
whose name begins with an L as far as you can recall,
well on your own way to oblivion where you will join those
who have even forgotten how to swim and how to ride a
bicycle.

No wonder you rise in the middle of the night
to look up the date of a famous battle in a book on war.
No wonder the moon in the window seems to have drifted
out of a love poem that you used to know by heart.

--Billy Collins

2005 Montana Legislature

About Bill -- Links

SENATE BILL NO. 69

INTRODUCED BY J. COBB

A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE HONORARY POSITION OF STATE POET LAUREATE; PROVIDING FOR THE NOMINATION, APPOINTMENT, AND TERM OF THE STATE POET LAUREATE; PROVIDING FOR IMPLEMENTATION; AMENDING SECTION 22-2-106, MCA; AND PROVIDING AN IMMEDIATE EFFECTIVE DATE."

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

NEW SECTION. **Section 1. State poet laureate.** (1) There is a state poet laureate.

(2) Within 30 days prior to the expiration of the state poet laureate's term of appointment or within 30 days after a vacancy in the position occurs, the Montana arts council established in 22-2-101 shall nominate three individuals to be the state poet laureate. The Montana arts council shall provide the list of nominees to the governor who shall:

(a) within 30 days after receiving the list of nominees, appoint the state poet laureate from among the individuals named on the list; and

(b) notify the secretary of state and the Montana arts council of the appointment.

(3) The individual named by the governor as the state poet laureate shall serve for a term of 2 years beginning on the date of appointment by the governor.

(4) The state poet laureate is an honorary position, and the person serving as the state poet laureate may not receive any compensation from the state for serving as the state poet laureate.

Section 2. Section 22-2-106, MCA, is amended to read:

"22-2-106. Council duties. The ~~duties of the~~ council shall ~~be to~~:

(1) encourage throughout the state the study and presentation of the arts and stimulate public interest and participation ~~therein~~ in the arts;

(2) cooperate with public and private institutions engaged within the state in artistic and cultural activities, including but not limited to music, theater, dance, painting, sculpture, architecture, and allied arts and crafts, and make recommendations concerning appropriate methods to encourage participation in and appreciation of the arts to meet the legitimate needs and aspirations of persons in all parts of the state;

(3) foster public interest in the cultural heritage of our state and expand the state's cultural resources;

(4) encourage and assist freedom of artistic expression essential for the well-being of the arts;

(5) as required under [section 1], nominate three individuals to serve as the state poet laureate and provide the list of nominees to the governor."

NEW SECTION. **Section 3. Implementation.** The Montana arts council shall provide to the governor before July 1, 2005, a list of three nominees for the position of state poet laureate provided for in [section 1]. The governor shall appoint a state poet laureate within 30 days following receipt of the list of appointees. Subsequent nominations and appointments as state poet laureate must be made as provided in [section 1].

NEW SECTION. **Section 4. Codification instruction.** [Section 1] is intended to be codified as an integral part of Title 2, chapter 15, and the provisions of Title 2, chapter 15, apply to [section 1].

NEW SECTION. **Section 5. Effective date.** [This act] is effective on passage and approval.

- END -

Latest Version of SB 69 *(SB0069.01)*

Processed for the Web on December 14, 2004 (9:24am)

New language in a bill appears underlined, deleted material appears stricken.

Sponsor names are handwritten on introduced bills, hence do not appear on the bill until it is reprinted.

See the status of this bill for the bill's primary sponsor.

Status of this Bill | 2005 Legislature | Leg. Branch Home

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State poet laureate proposed

By ALLISON FARRELL
Gazette State Bureau

HELENA - Aside from a solution to the school funding problem and a new state budget, what Montana needs is its own poet laureate, Sen. Sam Kitzenberg, R-Glasgow, said Tuesday.

Kitzenberg, a high school English teacher, and Sen. John Cobb, R-Augusta, a rancher-lawyer, are co-sponsoring a bill in the 2005 Legislature that would create the top poetry post in Montana.

"I always felt we had an unwritten poet laureate with Richard Hugo at the University of Montana," Kitzenberg said. "This would be a way we could recognize some of our poets who have been able to capture what Montana really means."

The late and iconic Hugo gave voice to a generation of Montana poets and paved the way for the current generation of Montana writers, such as Maile Meloy and Deirdre McNamer, published in "The New Montana Story: An Anthology" in 2003.

"It's just a nice thing to do," Cobb said of the proposed post. "It doesn't solve any problems, but it's something the government does."

Under the bill, the Montana Arts Council would supply the governor with the names of three qualified Montana poets. The governor would then appoint a poet from the list to hold the honorary post for two years. The poet laureate would receive no compensation but would promote the arts throughout Montana.

"I think it's a grand idea," said Arni Fishbaugh, executive director of the Montana Arts Council. "Many other states have poet laureates, and Montana is known for the outstanding quality of its poets and writers."

Thirteen other states, including Utah and California, have state poet laureates, and four countries - Britain, Canada, France and the United States - also have the position.

The poet laureate concept was born in England in the early 1600s, when King James I commissioned a poem. The idea didn't jump the Atlantic for 300 years, until the United States created a poetry consultant post in 1937. The current post was created by Congress in 1985.

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What is a Poet Laureate?

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Poets Laureate, appointed by the Librarian of Congress, are entrusted with raising the status of poetry in the everyday conscience of the American public.

In 1616 King James I of England granted playwright and poet Ben Jonson a pension, thereby establishing the informal position of Poet Laureate. Jonson died in 1637 and a like pension was bestowed to William Davenant.

In 1668 the post of Poet Laureate was officially established as a royal office. As first decreed by Thomas Shadwell, the Poet Laureate of England's sole responsibility was to compose birthday poems and a special New Year's ode for the Royal Family. For more than 150 years this tradition was strictly adhered to until the dignity of the post began to erode to the point where both poet and royal were just going through the motions. Queen Victoria ended the sham and changed the honorific to a recognition of achievement in poetry. If the Poet Laureate feels the urge to compose a verse or two for the royal family, it is still looked upon favorably.

In the United States some local Poets Laureate were recognized in their communities in the 19th century but it was not until 1937 that a similar position to that in England was established in America. The American equivalent was the Poetry Consultant to the Library of Congress, a job that carried an impressive title but no pay. In 1985 the United States Congress created an official post with the creation of the Poet Laureate Consultant to the Library of Congress.

The Poet Laureate, in addition to legitimacy, now received an annual monetary stipend, currently $35,000. The money was funded by a gift from Archer M. Huntingdon, son of

one of the quartet of founders of the Central Pacific Railroad that worked on the Transcontinental Railroad. Huntingdon was not similarly inclined to business and spent his life in philanthropic pursuits. "Wherever I put my foot down, a museum springs up," he once said.

British Poets Laureate serve for life and since 1668 there have been only 19 poets so honored (no women). In the United States, the Poet Laureate is appointed by the Librarian of Congress to a single term, serving from October to May (there have been many women Poets Laureate). In making the selection, the Librarian of Congress seeks the consul of past and present Poets Laureate and other distinguished poetry critics.

The official duties of a Poet Laureate are few. There is one annual lecture and a poetry reading but little beyond that. The general mandate is to raise the status of poetry in the everyday conscience of the American public. Each Poet Laureate is free to pursue an individual agenda which are predictably diverse. During his service, Poet Laureate Joseph Brodsky spearheaded a movement to place poetry in airports, supermarkets and hotel rooms. Poet Laureate Gwendolyn Brooks spent her tenure meeting with elementary school students encouraging them to write poetry. Poet Laureate Robert Haas sought to integrate poetry into the fabric of the community with his "Watershed" conference that united novelists, storytellers and poets to talk about their work.

43

Clearly, the position of Poet Laureate has come a long way since the days when a poet was expected to string together a few rhymes for a royal birthday party.

Written by *Doug Gelbert*

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<<Mystery and miracle plays in English drama

Understanding the basics of metaphor in poetry>>

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Poets Laureate of the U.S.A.

A Net-annotated list

A Net-annotated list of all the poets who have served the Library of Congress as Consultant (the old title) or Poet Laureate Consultant (the new title). Biographies & general reference sites are linked to the poets' names -- many of them pages from the Academy of American Poets' Find a Poet archive, a growing & invaluable resource. If there is no general information site about the poet, we have searched the Net for sample poems or other writings or recordings & listed those below the poet's name.

- Joseph Auslander 1937-41
  His sonnet, "To My Despoiler"
- Allen Tate 1943-44
  His essay on writing poetry, "Narcissus As Narcissus"
- Robert Penn Warren 1944-45
- Louise Bogan 1945-46
- Karl Shapiro 1946-47
- Robert Lowell 1947-48
- Leonie Adams 1948-49
- Elizabeth Bishop 1949-50
- Conrad Aiken 1950-52 (First to serve two terms)
- William Carlos Williams
  Appointed to serve two terms in 1952 but did not serve -- for more on this & other Laureate controversies see the history in *Jacket* magazine
- Randall Jarrell 1957-58
- Robert Frost 1958-59

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- Richard Eberhart 1959-61
- Louis Untermeyer 1961-63
  His poems "Prayer," "Summons" & "On the Birth of a Child" at Bartleby
  "Reveille" & 4 other poems at Daypoems
- Howard Nemerov 1963-64
- Reed Whittemore 1964-65
- Stephen Spender 1965-66
- James Dickey 1966-68
- William Jay Smith 1968-70
  His "Epigrams"
- William Stafford 1970-71
- Josephine Jacobsen 1971-73
  Her letter to William Meredith
- Daniel Hoffman 1973-74
- Stanley Kunitz 1974-76
- Robert Hayden 1976-78
- William Meredith 1978-80
- Maxine Kumin 1981-82
- Anthony Hecht 1982-84
- Robert Fitzgerald 1984-85 (Appointed and served in a health-limited capacity, but did not come to the Library of Congress)
- Reed Whittemore 1984-85 (Interim Consultant in Poetry)
- Gwendolyn Brooks 1985-86
- Robert Penn Warren 1986-87 (First to be designated Poet Laureate Consultant in Poetry)
- Richard Wilbur 1987-88
- Howard Nemerov 1988-90
- Mark Strand 1990-91

About 2005 Cars
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Our 2000 feature article on him, "Stranded: Poet Mark Strand Preaches Political Indifference at UCI"

- Joseph Brodsky 1991-92
  Our 1997 feature article on him, "The Poet Is Gone, The Poems Live On"
- Mona Van Duyn 1992-93
- Rita Dove 1993-95
  A special Web edition of her poem "Lady Freedom Among Us"
- Robert Hass 1995-97
  Brighde Mullins' introduction to his reading at DIA Center for the Arts
- Robert Pinsky 1997-2000
  His Favorite Poem Project
  Our review of his book, *The Sounds of Poetry*
- Stanley Kunitz 2000-2001
  Our collection of Kunitz quotes & links when he was appointed Laureate
- Billy Collins 2001-2003
  His Poetry 180 project to bring poetry into American high schools
  Our choice of two of his readings as Poetry MP3 Picks in honor of his laureateship
- Louise Glück 2003-2004
  Our links & comments when she was named Laureate

See the most recent Library of Congress press release (on Louise Glück's appointment) & the 1999 press release (when Robert Pinsky was reappointed to an unprecedented third term as Poet Laureate) for fact sheets & brief history of the U.S. Poet Laureate position.

Previous Feature Articles
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Poets Laureate of Great Britain.

Related pages:
★ Books of Poetry Form. ★ Alphabetic list of poetry forms and related topics. ★ Poetry Home-Sweet-Home. ★ How to Write Poetry.

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Poets Laureate of Great Britain
by Joan Zimmerman

★ History. ★ FAQs. ★ Notes on the laureated Poets. ★ Non-Laureated Poets.
★ Alphabetic List. ★ Chronological List. ★ Links. ★ Books.

[redacted]	Buy *Verses of the Poets Laureate: from John Dryden to Andrew Motion*, by Phillis Levin (Editor) and Andrew Motion (Introduction). It describes and shows the work of the 19 poets appointed as Poet Laureate since Charles II created the first in 1668.
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The greatest British Poets Laureate are Tennyson, William Wordsworth, and the first Laureate, John Dryden .

Several of the other Laureates were famous poets, particularly Ted Hughes, Robert Southey, John Masefield, Sir John Betjeman, Cecil Day-Lewis, and the current Laureate, Andrew Motion.

History and responsibilities.

In Great Britain, the Poet Laureate is:

- The realm's official poet.
- A member of the royal household.
- Charged with writing verses for court and national occasions (such as for a Royal Wedding or the New Year).
- Awarded the position for life.
- Chosen by the British reigning monarch, from a list of nominees that the Prime Minister compiles after a poet laureate dies.

Shortly after the 1668, the position became the Poet Laureate of *Great Britain* in 1707, when The Act of Union created "Great Britain" as the political name of England, Scotland, and Wales.

The name *Laureate* derives from the Latin *laureatus* ("crowned with laurel"). It comes from an ancient Roman tradition of honoring a person (especially a poet) who has shown excellence of achievement. The honor is signified by presenting the person with a wreath of laurel leaves.

FAQs (Frequently Asked Questions) on the Poets Laureate of Great Britain.

1. What does "Laureate" mean? Answer.
2. Who was the best? Most frequently this is said to be Tennyson.
3. Who was the worst? Several contenders. The winner is one of: Colley Cibber, Laurence Eusden, Henry James Pye, and William Whitehead.
4. Wasn't Ben Johnson the first Poet Laureate? Not officially. In the Middle Ages and Renaissance, many monarch and other leaders patronized writers, who repaid the favor by praising their sponsors. One example is Jonson received a pension from James I, unofficially for writing masques.
5. Which Poet Laureate was dismissed from his job? John Dryden. And why? See notes on John Dryden.
6. How many Poets Laureate (including the one present in 2002) have there been? 19 people have held the position of Poet Laureate.
7. Who was the longest serving Poet Laureate? Alfred, Lord Tennyson held the post for 42 years.
8. What is the job description? There isn't one! A major challenge of the unique post is the freedom for the poet who accepts the role. Each poet has shaped it in their unique way.

Alphabetic List of the Poets Laureate of Great Britain.

Austin, Alfred (1835-1913)
Betjeman, Sir John (1906-1984)
Bridges, Robert (1844-1930)
Cibber, Colley (1671-1757)
Day-Lewis, Cecil (1904-1972)
Dryden, John (1631-1700)
Eusden, Laurence (1688-1730)
Hughes, Ted (1930-1998)
Masefield, John (1878-1967)
Motion, Andrew (1952-)
Pye, Henry (1745-1813)

Rowe, Nicholas (1674-1718)
Shadwell, Thomas (1642-1692)
Southey, Robert (1774-1843)
Tate, Nahum (1652-1715)
Tennyson, Alfred, Lord (1809-1892)
Wharton, Thomas (1728-1790)
Whitehead, William (1715-1785)
Wordsworth, William (1770-1850)

Chronological List of the Poets Laureate of Great Britain.

John Dryden (1631-1700)
Thomas Shadwell (1642-1692)
Nahum Tate (1652-1715)
Nicholas Rowe (1674-1718)
Laurence Eusden (1688-1730)
Colley Cibber (1671-1757)
William Whitehead (1715-1785)
Thomas Wharton (1728-1790)
Henry James Pye (1745-1813)
Robert Southey (1774-1843)
William Wordsworth (1770-1850)
Alfred, Lord Tennyson (1809-1892)
Alfred Austin (1835-1913)
Robert Bridges (1844-1930)
John Masefield (1878-1967)
Cecil Day-Lewis (1904-1972)
Sir John Betjeman (1906-1984)
Ted Hughes (1930-1998)
Andrew Motion (1952-)

Sketches on the Poets Laureate of Great Britain, in chronological order.
Or, see our lists of Poets Laureate in ★ Alphabetic Sequence. ★ Chronological Sequence.

- **John Dryden** (1631-1700).
  Laureate 1668-88.

  Appointed in 1668 by King Charles II, who gave John Dryden a formal royal warrant that awarded him the official titles of Poet Laureate and Historiographer Royal. This role continued under King James II.

As a powerful satirist, Dryden was a strong advocate and spokesman for his monarch, and "the best poet, dramatist, translator and critic of the age" [Levin in *Verses of the Poets Laureate*]

In 1689, sacked [or fired] by William III for failing to take an oath of allegiance.

- **Thomas Shadwell** (1643?-1692).
  Laureate 1689-92.

  The successful dramatist Thomas Shadwell was chosen in large part because he was a Protestant Whig, essential to replace the Catholic Dryden. met an inglorious end in 1693,

  A weak poet, a heavy drinker, and an opium user, Shadwell died from an overdose of opium, which he took in part to relieve his gout. He was said to have found the laureateship unimportant. Disrespected by John Dryden, among others, for his poetry as well as for his politics.

  Shadwell wrote a yearly ode on the monarch's birthday, and introduced the tradition of writing a New Year ode; his odes are crashingly uninspired and mechanistic, as if written by an unusually dimwitted computer program.

- **Nahum Tate** (1652-1715).
  Laureate 1692-1715.

  Born in Dublin, Tate was awarded the Poet Laureate position (and its £100 per year) but the post of Historiographer Royal (and its annual £200) became a separate assignment.

  Tate is most known today for his authorship of the widely loved Christmas carol "While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks By Night". He is notorious for his (creative?) revision of Shakespeare's tragedy *King Lear*, giving it a happy ending.

  In response to public events, Tate wrote poems for victories against the French (1704), the Act of Union between the Parliaments of England and Scotland (1707), and the signing of the Peace of Utrecht with France (1713).

- **Nicholas Rowe** (1674-1718).
  Laureate 1715-18.

Nicholas Rowe was celebrated as a dramatist rather than as a poet. The Poet Laureate's role was now general praise of the sovereign, rather than political and historical. In addition to the annual New Year ode, the Laureate acquired the duty of writing a birthday ode to the monarch, a practice which was to last over 100 years.

- **Laurence Eusden** (1688-1730).
  Laureate 1718-30.

  Eusden never published a book of poetry. His work is mediocre.

- **Colley Cibber** (1671-1757).
  Laureate 1730-57.

  The poetry of dramatist Colley Cibber was conscientious but not inspired.

- **William Whitehead** (1715-85).
  Laureate 1757-85. [The appointment was first offered to and declined by Thomas Gray.]

  William Whitehead (a respectable though perhaps dull dramatist) was good humored and amiable. For example, he defended the poetry of Laureates in a comic poem "A Pathetic Apology For All Laureates, Past, Present, And To Come".

  Whitehead was conscientious, and saw himself as a non-partisan spokesman for the whole country. Astonishingly for a political appointee, he appeared to see no requirement "to defend the King or support the government". Sadly, this reflects the idea that the Laureate's influence had weakened so much that the official poems were unlikely to influence opinions, even though the times were important politically, with rebellion in the American colonies and war in Europe.

- **Thomas Wharton** (1728-90).
  Laureate 1785-90. Professor of Poetry at Oxford, Wharton was the only eighteenth-century laureate who was not primarily a dramatist. William Wordsworth and Samuel Coleridge admired his work.

- **Henry James Pye** (1745-1813).
  Laureate 1790-1813.

  Before Pye's appointment, the Sovereign or the Lord Chamberlain (a member

of the Royal Household) awarded the Poet Laureateship directly. William Pitt (the first Prime Minister involved in appointing a Laureate) offered the position to Henry James Pye, a politician more than a poet. Thereafter, the Prime Minister submits names for royal approval. Then the monarch commands the Lord Chamberlain to issue a warrant of appointment.

- **Robert Southey** (1774-1843).
  Laureate 1813-43. [In a bizarre double-offer the appointment was offered to two writers concurrently. Fortunately, Sir Walter Scott turned down the approach by Prime Minister, Lord Liverpool.]

  Robert Southey accepted the suggestion of the post from the Prince Regent. When Scott declined the offer, he suggested Southey also, so the situation ended well.

  During Southey's tenure, George IV became monarch in 1820, and abandoned the requirement for regular odes to the monarch.

- **William Wordsworth** (1770-1850).
  Laureate 1843-50.

  William Wordsworth, at 73, was the oldest Poet Laureate to be appointed. He accepted the position on the agreement that he would not have obligations to write poetry on demand.

  Since Wordsworth, the job of Poet Laureate has been purely honorary, and appointees have been able to interpret the role as they wish.

- **Alfred, Lord Tennyson** (1809-92).
  Laureate 1850-92. [The appointment was first offered to and (to our benefit) declined by Samuel Rogers.]

  Alfred Tennyson raised the stature of the Poet Laureate hugely. His laureate poems include *The Charge Of The Light Brigade* (the suicidal charge by the Light Brigade down a valley at Balaclava during the Crimean war).

  Tennyson's death was mourned publicly by millions. In respect, no appointment was made to the post of Poet Laureate for four years.

- **Alfred Austin** (1835-1913).
  Laureate 1896-1913.

A pompous man, least successful of the Poets Laureate.

- **Robert Bridges** (1844-1930).
  Laureate 1913-30.

  Uninterested in fame and praise, Bridges wrote little and destroyed his papers before his death.

- **John Masefield** (1878-1967).
  Laureate 1930-67.

  Born in Ledbury, Herefordshire, England, Masefield apprenticed to be a merchant marine officer. While training, he became ill in Chile, returned to England, then worked in factories and bars in the United States. In 1897 he returned to England, working on newspapers and his own writing (poems, stories, and plays). Masefield published his first volume of poems in 1902. He served during World War I in the Red Cross in France and on a hospital ship at Gallipoli. His simple and moving poems include the famous *Sea Fever*.

- **Cecil Day-Lewis** (1904-72).
  Laureate 1968-72.

  Anglo-Irish Cecil Day-Lewis was a poet, critic, and educator who enjoyed the honor of being the Poet Laureate. A student at Oxford with Auden. A committed Communist though naive politically. Hi poetry are often romantic and melancholy. Also he wrote detective stories (using the pseudonym Nicholas Blake).

- **Sir John Betjeman** (1906-84).
  Laureate 1972-84.

  Born in Highgate (North London). Sir John Betjeman wrote humorous and accessible poetry. Betjeman commemorated royal events such as The Queen's Silver Jubilee in 1977.

- **Ted Hughes** (1930-98).
  Laureate 1984-1998.

  Born in Yorkshire. A fierce, sometimes ferocious, poet of the natural and the mythological worlds, of "the struggle in the soil as well as in the soul" [Levin in *Verses of the Poets Laureate*]. Also authored poetry and plays for children.

Despite the "no obligations" clause, Hughes did write in commemoration of royal events, such as the christening of Prince Henry of Wales in 1985.

- **Andrew Motion** (1952-present).
  Laureate 1998-present.

  Andrew Motion, an acclaimed poet and biographer, teaches creative writing at the University of East Anglia. He promotes poetry among young people. His poems addressing many public events as well and royal occasions, including the 100th birthday of Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother. A critic, and a free-form poet who interweaves the personal, the historical, the legendary, and the political.

Not-quite Poets Laureate of Great Britain.

These poets were not Poets Laureate, for the reasons given.

- **Ben Jonson** (1573-1637), a playwright and poet, a volatile satirist of explosive temperament and "a great lover and praiser of himself", was not formally appointed as Poet Laureate. John Dryden was the first appointed Poet Laureate, as shown by the official royal record (starts in a new window).

  At best, Jonson was a "common law" poet laureate (as in "common law" husband).

  Some believe Jonson to be the greatest English poet and dramatist of the seventeenth century. Many praise his charm and good humor. His vigor and productivity is clear.

  Jonson learned the trade of bricklayer, fought with English troops in Flanders, then returned to London to become an actor and playwright, a writer of masques (short pageant-like plays), and a tutor to Sir Walter Raleigh's son.

  In 1597 Jonson was imprisoned for involvement in the satire *The Isle of Dogs*, which authorities found seditious. He was tried for killing a fellow actor in a duel in 1598. Imprisioned for this, he converted to Catholicism to be spared death for murder. He was released provided that he forfeit all his possessions, and that he receive a felon's brand on his thumb.

  Charged with treason for his tragedy *Sejanus, His Fall* (1603) and then briefly imprisoned for views in *Eastward Ho* (1604), Jonson (a Catholic) was under deep suspicion after Guy Fawkes' Gunpowder Plot (1605). This situation may have motivated him, shortly thereafter, to reconvert to Anglicanism. He did become

court poet to King James I.

One of Jonson's most famous poems, "To Celia", begins "Drink to me, only, with thine eyes...". Buried upright in Westminster Abbey, standing on his feet in the northern aisle of the Nave (and not in Poets' Corner) beneath the inscription "O Rare Ben Johnson"

- **William Davenant, or Sir William D'Avenant.** After Jonson's death, dramatist Davenant [D'Avenant] inherited Jonson's office and pension, again as an unofficial appointment.

Links.

- Best Poems by the Best Poets - Some Lists of Winners.
- Poets Laureate of the United States of America..

Books about the Poets Laureate of Great Britain.

Verses of the Poets Laureate: from John Dryden to Andrew Motion, by Phillis Levin (Editor) and Andrew Motion (Introduction). Background on each Poet Laureate and samples of their work. Laureate Andrew Motion introduces the collection with his thoughts on what his predecessors achieved and what he plans to accomplish.

Related Books.

- *The Best American Poetry: 2004*, Editor Lyn Hejinian.
- *The Best American Poetry: 2003*, Editor Yusef Komunyakaa.
- *The Best American Poetry: 2002*, Editor Robert Creeley.
- *The Best American Poetry: 2000*, Editor Rita Dove.
- *The Best American Poetry: 2001*, Editor Robert Hass.
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